

10 Brookside, Cambridge and the September 25th specimen *per* Miss Haynes from the Cambridge Botanical Garden (Wainwright, C. J. 1928. The British Tachinidae (Diptera) *Trans. ent. Soc. Lond.* **76**: 139-254).

d'Assis-Fonseca (1947. *Ent. Rec.* **59**: 137) recorded the species as abundant in his garden at Westerleigh, Cote Drive, Westbury-on-Trym between 20 and 26 September of that year. In total, 19 males and 12 females were taken from a clump of Golden Rod *Solidago canadensis*. He also stated "It is of interest to note that the species may be a regular visitor to this part of the country as I took a single male in Blaize Woods, near Bristol, on 8th July 1945, and a single female at Edington, near Bridgwater, on 21st June 1947". Also in 1947, C. N. Colyer (*Ent. Rec.* **59**: 155) referred to his capture of a male "on a dahlia" in a park at Cockfosters, Hertfordshire on 19 October 1947.

In 1949, the ailing C. J. Wainwright (*op.cit.*) stated that he had personally taken *lunata* that year from Mundeford, near Christchurch, and published these additional records – 1934 Bembridge, Isle of Wight, H. W. Andrews; 3 August 1944, Southwell on Portland Bill, C. J. Wainwright and late 1949, Coombe Dingle, near Bristol E. E. Lowe.

Nothing was said by J.P. Dear (1981. Blowfly recording scheme – an interim report. *Ent. Mon. Mag.* **117**: 75-76) of further occurrences of *Stomorphina lunata* in Britain and hence this observation may be of some interest.

On 1.ix.2001, I was demonstrating insects to the then eight years old enthusiast Thomas Venner at Swanscombe NNR (VC 16). At one spot (O.S. Grid reference TQ 594742) a small patch of Golden Rod *Solidago canadensis* was encountered and here a number of showy insects, including *Cerceris rybyensis* (L.) (Hym.: Sphecidae), *Helophilus pendulus* (L.), *Sphaerophoria scripta* (L.) and *Syrirta pipiens* (L.) (Dipt.: Syrphidae) and *Tachina fera* (L.) (Dipt.: Tachinidae), were found feeding on the flowers. Whilst going for a *Conops*, which proved to be *quadrifasciatus* De Geer (Conopidae), I thought that I had accidentally sucked a specimen of *Musca autumnalis* De Geer into the pooter and no more thought was given. When the contents of the pooter were examined under the microscope the next day I found that this specimen had a pronounced epistoma, ruling out *M. autumnalis* and that there was a row of hypopleural bristles, ruling out the Muscidae. It did not take long before its identity was determined to be *Stomorphina lunata*. To quote Jenkinson, it is, indeed, "an odd looking insect" and another which the dry, un-illustrated, descriptions in the literature cannot prepare one for. – LAURENCE CLEMONS, 14 St. John's Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 4NE.

The Dusky Hook-tip *Drepana curvatula* (Borkh.) (Lep.: Drepanidae) new to the Isle of Wight

On 8 August 2002, Dave Wooldridge caught an example of the Dusky Hook-tip *Drepana curvatula* in his trap at The Causeway, Freshwater. When he returned from fetching a box it had gone, but he was positive of its identification. Two other examples of this species were taken in Kent two weeks previously, suggesting strongly that all of these records of this rare species relate to primary immigrants. Less than twenty have been recorded in the British Isles. – SAM KNILL-JONES, Roundstone, 2 School Green Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight PO40 9AL.